

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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**HOME OF CONRAD WEISER 1725-1760**

STANDS HERE FOR A FULL 200 YEARS, WELL-REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE OLD-TIMEY AND RUSTY HOUSE OF NEW ENGLAND.  
THIS HOUSE WAS BUILT BY CONRAD WEISER, A  
FARMER AND A MAN OF LETTERS. HE WAS A  
MAN OF GREAT TALENTS AND A MAN OF GREAT  
CHARACTER. HE WAS A MAN OF GREAT  
TALENTS AND A MAN OF GREAT CHARACTER.  
HE WAS A MAN OF GREAT TALENTS AND A  
MAN OF GREAT CHARACTER. HE WAS A  
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RESIDENT: GEORGE W. WASHINGTON  
GEORGE W. WASHINGTON WAS A MAN OF  
GREAT TALENTS AND A MAN OF GREAT  
CHARACTER. HE WAS A MAN OF GREAT  
TALENTS AND A MAN OF GREAT CHARACTER.

HOME OF CONRAD WEISER 1729-1760

Churchman, counsellor, soldier, Indian interpreter, agent, diplomat and first judge of Berks County.

Here were held many conferences with Indian chiefs, missionaries, Colonial governors, and leaders.

Here were reared his children, of whom the eldest daughter, Anna Maria, married Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the "Patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America."

Here he died July 13, 1760, and lies buried in the family plot of the Lutheran Church in America.

He so ably served the Colonies as Indian interpreter and diplomat that he is regarded as the pivotal man who brought the country under Anglo-Saxon *versus* Latin civilization.

“POSTERITY CANNOT FORGET HIS SERVICES”

**FORGE HIS SERVICES  
PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON.**

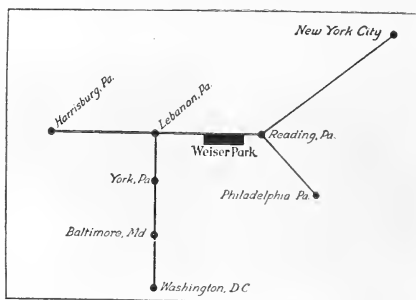
Erected by the Blue Mountain Eagle Climbing Club and unveiled during the 200th Anniversary of the settlement of the Tulpehocken community, June 29, 1923.

# BETTER PLANTS

Weiser Park and Peony Edition



**T**HIS diagram shows our new location as related to important eastern cities. Weiser Park is on the William Penn Highway (Penna. Route 3), about 10 miles west of Reading and 40 miles east of Harrisburg. Improved highways lead from all portions of scenic Pennsylvania.



## Peonies are Home Flowers

A Cornell University bulletin does not hesitate to place Peonies in the forefront of flowers for the home-grounds. An extract follows:

"Engrossed in their own labors, with little or no leisure, busy people have no time for such flowers as require special care at certain periods. All such persons will find that for a moderate outlay nothing will give as much joy and satisfaction, or endure so long without special care, as will the Peony. Every farm and village or country-town lot in New York State should have at least a dozen varieties of Peonies representing the leading colors from the early to the latest blooming varieties."

Peonies are generally grown and ultimately used to obtain the effect of ornament and beauty. Whether for garden display or for cut-flower markets, the ultimate use and mission of Peonies is (a) beauty in flower-beds, (b) beauty in borders, (c) beauty in landscape displays, (d) beauty in specimen and novelty bloom.

Peonies are one of the few flowers which can be planted with little or no regard to color schemes. Most any combination of type and color will be pleasing and delightful to the eyes of everyone. The best border and landscape results are obtained by mass plantings of a few distinct varieties.

By a careful selection of varieties, planned either by yourself or your Peony-grower, a most comprehensive assortment of Peonies can be established to include a range of type, color, blooming season, and fragrance: **in type** ranging through single Japanese, semi-double, anemone, crown, bomb, semi-rose, and rose; **in color**, through shades of white, pink, salmon, yellow, and red; **in season**, from mid-May to late June.



The Conrad Weiser house as it looks today. A more modern farmhouse has taken its place and is headquarters for our Weiser Park Nursery. The old building has been purchased by the Berks County Historical Society and, with surrounding grounds, is being developed into a public park known as Weiser Park.



Our office building at Weiser Park. We expect to make this our home about the first of January, 1927

# Better Peonies—by Farr

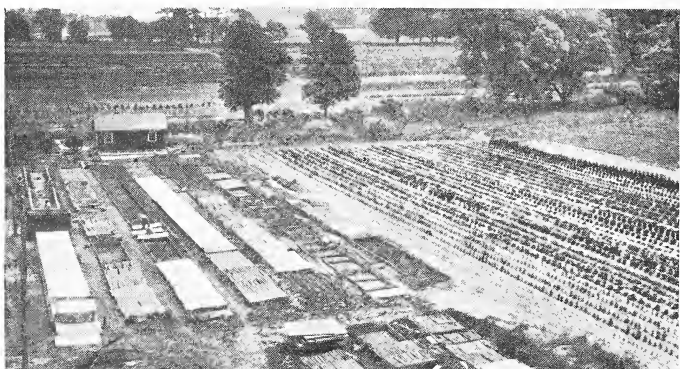
## HOW TO GROW PEONIES

**When to Plant.** Peonies may be planted in early spring before the sprouts appear, or in fall from the middle of August until the ground freezes. Fall is, in general, the better time, because bloom usually will follow the next spring, while spring-planted roots usually will not bloom until a year later.

**Where to Plant.** So long as they have the average garden soil, abundant sunshine, and good drainage, Peonies may be planted in any location and for any purpose. Shady, wet, and over-fertilized locations are not favorable for Peony planting, although the roots are so hardy that they can be kept out of the ground for months without permanent injury.

**How to Plant.** Dig holes or furrows to a depth and diameter of about 15 inches. Fill in the bottom with enough loose ground, so that the eyes of the Peony will be 2 inches below the surface after the hole is filled in and mounded for drainage, the roots, of course, projecting downward and the eyes upward. Pack the ground firmly while planting. Plant from 3 to 4 feet apart. *Do not use manure.* Bone-meal, wood-ashes, and commercial potato fertilizer are excellent and most proper.

**After Planting.** Until Peony roots are firmly established, they should be soaked with water during dry spells and covered with leaves or straw after the ground is frozen in winter. In spring most of this top-dressing should be worked into the soil, and cultivation should be frequent and regular. After the blooming season, three or four cultivations will be sufficient until the following spring. Spraying with a weak solution of bordeaux mixture (summer strength) before the buds open is not exactly necessary, but will improve the appearance and general health of the plants. Bone-meal, generously sprinkled around the plants before rains or waterings, is the safest and most convenient fertilizer during the blooming season and in late August when new root-growth is forming. When cutting Peonies allow at least two leaves to remain on each stem—the roots will need these “lungs” when they make their fall growth. Do not remove the foliage in fall before November, or at least not until it is thoroughly dead.



Looking toward the east. The propagating frames, small evergreens, irrigation system, pump house, and dam. This land was once farmed by Conrad Weiser

## HOW TO ORDER PEONIES

**Selection.** Within the last three years, the members of the American Peony Society have applied a percentage rating of quality to all Peony varieties with which they were sufficiently familiar. In the absence of better methods, there is now no reason why the Peony-buyer should not first select varieties of the highest rating, commensurate with the garden budget, and continue his or her collection on this basis. Every such selection will result in a "best" Peony.

**Reference.** On page 12 of this catalogue will be found two collections of moderate-priced Peonies of high rating. Because of the reductions applied to the collections, they are the logical choice for any purchaser who does not already possess the varieties included. After the collections have been procured, further purchases can be made on the basis of ratings, according to the type and color desired. The "first twenty-five Peonies" should be from collections.

When quantities of any certain varieties are desired for display or cut-flower purposes, we will be glad to assist in preparing such a list, and to make special quantity quotations accordingly.

**When to Order.** Whether for spring or fall planting, Peonies should be ordered well ahead of the shipping date desired. We ship orders in the sequence received, and an early order is in line for early shipment. An early order will be filled before the stocks are depleted and will seldom be shipped short because of sold-out varieties.



Well-trained horses beat tractors for cultivating Peony and Iris fields



A block of Peonies at Weiser Park, photographed June, 1926. This land once belonged to Conrad Weiser. Reading to Harrisburg railroad on left

## General List of Peonies

**Merit of Varieties.** More than 500 varieties of Peonies once included in the Farr collection are not listed in this catalogue because they have been discarded. There are no poor Peonies, but it can be realized that, after such discarding, every Peony offered in this issue of *BETTER PLANTS* is a "best" variety.

**Size of Divisions.** Prices as specified apply to standard divisions bearing from 2 to 5 eyes, the size which, under normal conditions, will bloom next spring. If parcel post handling is desired, add 10 cts. for each root. We will not furnish small divisions or clumps at any price. Departure from standard size encourages confusing detail and general dissatisfaction.

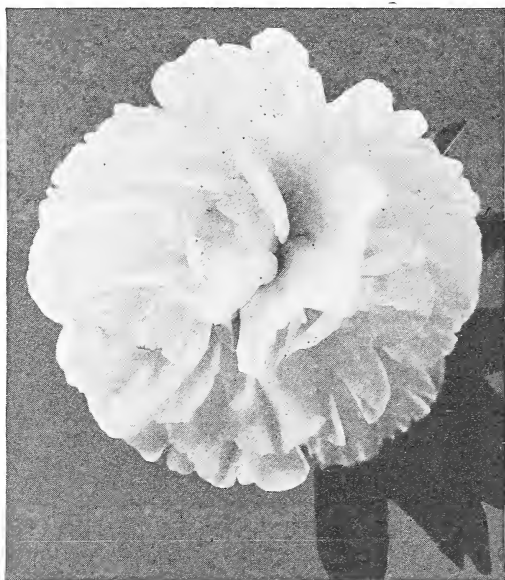
**Guarantee.** Like all Farr plants, Peonies are guaranteed to arrive in a satisfactory condition and to be true to name. Report to the contrary will result in prompt and satisfactory adjustment.

**Trueness to Name.** While it comforts you to know that untrue plants will be replaced, you would rather have them true in the first place. Every Peony here offered has been checked during the 1926 blooming season. We "stayed home" 100 per cent during Peony time for this purpose. There should not be a single case of untrue roots.

For parcel post handling, add 10 cts. for each root. Otherwise shipment will be made by express collect

*Abbreviations:* E., early; M., midseason; E.M., early midseason; L.M., late midseason; L., late

	Each	10 Rate
7.6 <b>Adelaide Hollis.</b> Rosy white. M.....	\$3 00	\$20 00
7.4 <b>Admiral Togo.</b> Crimson-carmine. M.....	2 00	12 50
8.5 <b>Adolphe Rousseau.</b> Best early dark red. M.....	1 50	10 00
8.7 <b>Albatre.</b> (Avalanche.) Large; compact; white. M. 1 00		6 50
8.8 <b>Alsace-Lorraine.</b> Fine cream-white. M.....	2 00	
9.0 <b>A. P. Saunders.</b> Flesh-white. L.....	10 00	
8.1 <b>Asa Gray.</b> Lilac, dotted darker. M.....	1 50	12 00
7.8 <b>Augustin d'Hour.</b> Rich rose-red. M.....	1 00	6 50
8.0 <b>Aurore.</b> Flecked lilac-white. L.....	2 00	
9.0 <b>Baroness Schroeder.</b> Flesh-white. L.....	1 50	
8.0 <b>Boule de Neige.</b> Compact; milk-white. E.M....	1 00	
8.7 <b>Claire Dubois.</b> Violet-rose. L.....	1 50	12 00
8.1 <b>Couronne d'Or.</b> Golden-stamened white. L.....	1 00	
8.4 <b>David Harum.</b> Distinct bright red. M.....	5 00	
8.1 <b>Duchesse de Nemours.</b> Sulphur-white. E.....	1 00	7 50
9.2 <b>E. B. Browning.</b> Shell-pink to white. Very late..	6 00	
9.4 <b>E. C. Shaw.</b> Clear rose. M.....	12 50	



Lady Alexandra Duff

## General List of Peonies, continued

	Each	10 Rate
7.6 <b>Edulis Superba.</b> Early pink. E.....	\$1 00	\$6 50
7.4 <b>Edwin Forrest.</b> Dark bright crimson. M.....	2 00	16 00
7.8 <b>E. G. Hill.</b> Light Tyrian-rose. M.....	2 50	
8.7 <b>E. J. Shaylor.</b> Rose-pink. L.M.....	12 50	
8.7 <b>Elwood Pleas.</b> Large; delicate pink. L.M.....	4 00	
8.9 <b>Enchanteresse.</b> Creamy white. Very late.....	3 00	
8.0 <b>Etta.</b> Hydrangea-pink. Very late.....	1 50	
8.3 <b>Eugene Verdier.</b> Exhibition; hydrangea-pink. L..	2 50	
8.9 <b>Eunice Shaylor.</b> Large; ivory-white. M.....	10 00	
8.1 <b>Evangeline.</b> Pale lilac-rose. M.....	3 00	
8.4 <b>Felix Crousse.</b> Vigorous; bright red. L.M.....	1 00	7 50
9.3 <b>Festiva Maxima.</b> White, flecked crimson. E....	1 00	6 50
8.2 <b>Francois Rousseau.</b> Velvety red. E.....	2 00	
8.5 <b>Germaine Bigot.</b> Rose, flecked crimson. M.....	1 50	10 00
8.8 <b>Ginette.</b> Cup-shaped; salmon-pink. M.....	5 00	
8.8 <b>Grandiflora.</b> Shell-pink. Very late.....	1 50	10 00
8.1 <b>Grandiflora Nivea Plena.</b> White. Very early....	1 00	7 50
8.2 <b>Grover Cleveland.</b> Large; dark crimson. L.....	2 00	
8.5 <b>Henry Avery.</b> Fragrant; white. L.....	5 00	
8.7 <b>James Kelway.</b> Yellowish rose-white. E.M.....	1 50	
9.6 <b>James R. Mann.</b> Large; rosy pink. M.....	20 00	
8.3 <b>Jeanne Gaudichau.</b> White, pink reflected. L....	2 00	
8.8 <b>Karl Rosenfield.</b> Dark crimson. M.....	2 00	
9.0 <b>Katharine Havemeyer.</b> Large; rose-pink. L.M..	12 50	
9.8 <b>Kelway's Glorious.</b> Glistening pink-white. L.M.	20 00	
8.8 <b>Kelway's Queen.</b> Large; mauve-rose. L.....	15 00	
9.1 <b>Lady Alexandra Duff.</b> Blush-pink to white. M...	5 00	
7.8 <b>La Fayette.</b> Large; cerise-salmon-pink. M.....	2 00	
9.2 <b>La Fee.</b> Large; rosy white. E.....	15 00	
9.0 <b>La France.</b> Large; compact rose-white. Very late.	5 00	
8.6 <b>La Lorraine.</b> Immense; creamy white. M.....	5 00	



General List of Peonies, continued

8.4	<b>Lamartine.</b> (Lem. 1908.) Large; carmine-rose. Each	10	Rate
	M.....	\$4	00
8.5	<b>La Perle.</b> Deep lilac-white. M.....	2	00
7.5	<b>La Tulipe.</b> Vigorous; lilac-white. L.M.....	1	00
			\$8 00
8.8	<b>Laura Dessert.</b> White, centered yellow. E.....	8	00
9.9	<b>Le Cygne.</b> Large; distinct white. M.....	10	00
8.8	<b>Loveliness.</b> Hydrangea-pink. M.....	3	00
8.1	<b>Lucy Hollis.</b> Lilac rose. Very late.....	1	50
	<b>Luella Shaylor.</b> Large; white, centered yellow.		
	M.....	15	00
8.4	<b>Luetta Pfeiffer.</b> Flesh, splashed carmine. E.....	8	00
9.0	<b>Mabel L. Franklin.</b> Pink, lavender, and cream.		
	M.....	7	50
8.5	<b>Madeline Gauthier.</b> Silvery flesh-pink. M.....	2	00
8.2	<b>Marcelle Dessert.</b> White, splashed lilac. M.....	1	50
8.6	<b>Marguerite Gaudichau.</b> Fragrant; shell-pink.		
	L.....	6	00
8.6	<b>Marguerite Gerard.</b> Pale pink to white. M.....	1	00
			8 00
8.9	<b>Marie Crousse.</b> Soft salmon-pink. M.....	2	50
8.5	<b>Marie Lemoine.</b> Large; creamy white. L.....	1	00
			8 00
8.5	<b>Maude L. Richardson.</b> Fragrant; lilac-rose. L...	2	00
9.0	<b>Milton Hill.</b> Delicate pink. L.....	4	00
8.1	<b>Mlle. Rousseau.</b> Milk-white, flecked carmine. M.	2	00
8.6	<b>Mme. Auguste Dessert.</b> Rose, flecked crimson.		
	E.M.....	1	00
8.0	<b>Mme. Benoit Riviere.</b> Salmon-rose. M.....	2	50
8.1	<b>Mme. Calot.</b> Hydrangea-pink. E.....	1	00
8.9	<b>Mme. Emile Lemoine.</b> Compact; milk-white.		
	M.....	1	50
8.4	<b>Mme. Guyot.</b> Many-colored white. M.....	2	00
9.4	<b>Mme. Jules Dessert.</b> Loose; flesh-white. M.....	3	00
7.9	<b>Mme. Savreau.</b> White and cream-yellow. E.M...	2	00
8.3	<b>Mons. Dupont.</b> Ivory-white. M.....	1	00
			8 00
9.2	<b>Mons. Jules Elie.</b> Large; early pink. E.M.....	1	00
			7 50
8.8	<b>Mons. Martin Cahuzac.</b> Darkest red. M.....	3	50
8.2	<b>Mrs. A. G. Ruggles.</b> Therese type. L.....	4	00
9.3	<b>Mrs. Edward Harding.</b> Sensational white. L.M.	50	00
7.9	<b>Mrs. Jennie Gowdy.</b> Ruffled; pinkish white. M..	4	00



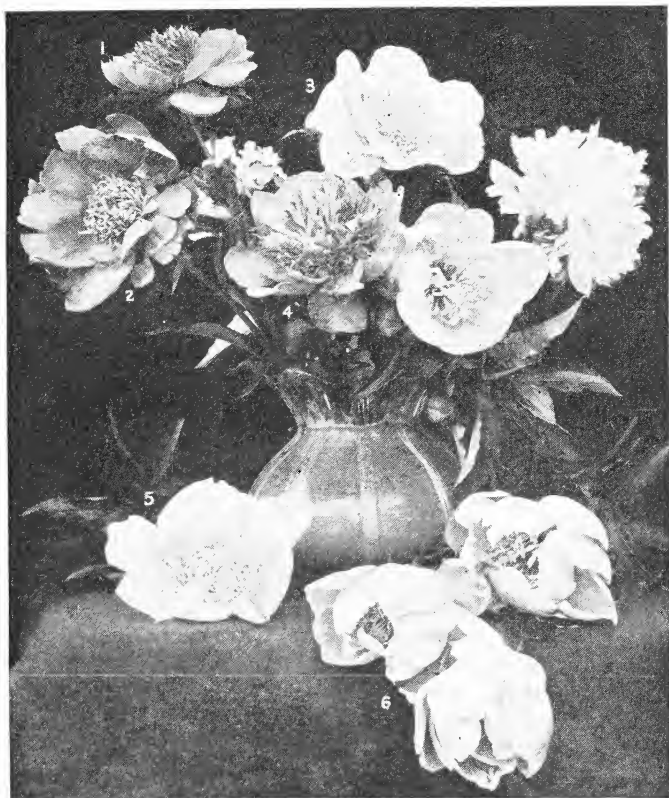
Close-up of a field of Reine Hortense in June, 1926

## General List of Peonies, continued

		Each	10 Rate
8.2	<b>Mrs. John M. Lewis.</b> Clear ox-blood red. M.....	\$4 00	
	<b>Nell Shaylor.</b> Large; fragrant; shell-pink. M.....	12 00	
8.8	<b>Nymphæa.</b> Large; flat; yellow-stamened white. M.....	5 00	
8.5	<b>Opal.</b> Opalescent pink. M.....	2 00	
8.5	<b>Paradise.</b> Large; white and pink. E.M.....	7 50	
8.0	<b>Pasteur.</b> Pink-white and cream. M.....	1 50	
8.0	<b>Perfection.</b> Large; shell-pink. L.....	1 50	
9.2	<b>Philippe Rivoire.</b> Brilliant crimson. E.....	12 50	
8.8	<b>Phœbe Cary.</b> Large; soft rose-pink. L.....	5 00	
8.6	<b>Primevere.</b> Nearest yellow Peony. M.....	4 00	
8.3	<b>Rachel.</b> (Lem.) Salmon, shaded pink. M.....	3 50	
9.0	<b>Raoul Dessert.</b> Large; compact; silvery pink. L.M.....	8 00	
8.7	<b>Reine Hortense.</b> (President Taft.) Large; hydrangea-pink. M.....	1 50	\$10 00
9.0	<b>Sarah Bernhardt.</b> Silver tipped pink. L.....	2 00	
8.6	<b>Sarah Carstenson.</b> Large; delicate rose. M.....	7 50	
9.1	<b>Sarah K. Thurlow.</b> Large; flesh-salmon-white. L.....	35 00	
8.5	<b>Shaylor's Dream.</b> Large; pure white. M.....	15 00	
7.9	<b>Simonne Chevalier.</b> Delicate lilac-rose. E.....	1 00	7 50
9.7	<b>Solange.</b> Compact; salmon and lilac-white. L.M.	5 00	
7.6	<b>Souvenir de l'Exposition Universelle.</b> Large; violet-rose. M.....	1 50	12 00
8.8	<b>Souvenir de Louis Bigot.</b> Silvery salmon-pink. L.M.....	6 00	
8.5	<b>Standard Bearer.</b> A giant and darker Mons. Jules Elie. E.....	5 00	
8.0	<b>Suzette.</b> Finely formed; Bengal rose. M.....	2 00	16 00
9.8	<b>Therese.</b> A magnificent pink. M.....	5 00	
8.3	<b>Tragedy.</b> Brilliant dark crimson. M.....	3 00	
8.3	<b>Victoire de la Marne.</b> Large; globular; dark crimson. M.....	5 00	
9.3	<b>Walter Faxon.</b> Delicate bright rose. M.....	5 00	
7.8	<b>Welcome Guest.</b> Semi-double; distinct rose. M..	1 00	



Fine specimens of Peonies grown by five of Farr's friends



Single Japanese Peonies

1. Cathedral, 2. Major Loder, 3. Mountebank, 4. Fuyajo, 5. Lemon Queen,  
6. Ama-no-sode

## Single Peonies

(Standard 3 to 5 eye divisions)

	Each	10 Rate
<b>Ama-No-Sode.</b> The best pink Jap.....	\$10 00	
<b>Cathedral.</b> Blush, with creamy center.....	3 00	
<b>Fuyajo.</b> The best dark Jap.....	10 00	
* <b>Geraldine.</b> Carmine-violet.....	1 50	\$10 00
* <b>Gypsy.</b> Dark Tyrian-rose. M.....	1 50	10 00
* <b>L'Etincelante.</b> Carmine-edged silver.....	1 50	10 00
<b>Lemon Queen.</b> White, with yellow center.....	3 00	
* <b>Major Loder.</b> Pink, edged flesh.....	1 50	10 00
<b>Mikado.</b> Crimson, with center edged gold.....	3 00	
* <b>Mountebank.</b> White and yellow.....	1 50	10 00

**One each of the five marked \*** (amounting to \$7.50) **for \$6 complete.** Add 10 cts. per root if parcel post handling is desired.

The 1911-12 edition of Farr's catalogue was my first acquaintance with the firm. To me, one of the greatest assets in the business has been the personal interest taken in each customer, and I have every confidence that these friendly business relations formed by the late Mr. Farr will be continued by the present management.—JOSEPHINE P. KINNIER, Lynchburg, Va.

## Tree Peonies

The Farr collection of Tree Peonies includes more than 400 varieties, which exist in a total of about 4,000 plants.

Because there is an average of but ten plants to a variety, because many varieties are similar, and because there are mixtures (the Japanese importations especially), it is impractical for us to offer a list of named varieties.

We are now trying to classify the 400 varieties into about 80 types, such as single ruffled white, double dark red, etc. As the plants bloom they are marked with metal labels and will be for sale in later years as quantities warrant.

The following Tree Peony offers can be made for this fall:

**Banksi.** Large; semi-double; pale lilac-rose. Free bloomer. Divisions from 8-year plants, 2 to 4 feet high, at \$6 each; 5 or more at \$5 each. Entire plants, containing from 5 to 6 divisions, for \$18 each. All shipments by express collect.

**Souvenir de Maxime Cornu.** One of the choicest and rarest novelties in existence. Introduced by Lemoine. Large, symmetrical, compact, pure yellow blooms with purple fringes. Free blooming and perfectly hardy if not planted in a wind-swept



Peony, Souvenir de Maxime Cornu



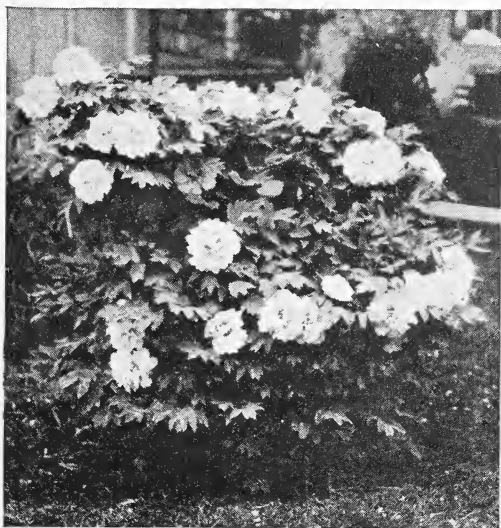
Tree Peonies at Weiser Park, May, 1926

### Tree Peonies, continued

location. Winter protection is advisable, but, in our experience, not necessary. Our plants are grown in the same block with other Tree Peonies and no protection is given them. Plants which have bloomed for three seasons in our nursery, can be supplied at \$50 each. Shipment by express collect.

No flower which I have seen this season has made a deeper impression than some splendid blooms of the Tree Peony, *Souvenir de Maxime Cornu*. This wonderful Peony is, unfortunately, still very scarce in American gardens, although a few growers have been able to obtain it from abroad by special permit. Last year Mr. Harry Norton, of Ayres Cliff, Quebec, exhibited a specimen at the Peony Show in Boston, but the cut-flowers never prove as effective as those seen growing on the plant itself, for this Peony makes a bush which in time comes to be from 3 to 4 feet high, and is covered with heavy dark green foliage.

A well-established plant carries an enormous number of flowers, there often being two or three on each stem. These flowers are deep yellow, but heavily shaded with orange-salmon. They are remarkably large and very full, with crinkled petals. All the Tree Peonies are lovely, but this one is outstanding. I believe it was first grown at the Paris Museum, being a hybrid between *P. lutea* and *P. Moutan*, Ville de Saint-Denis.—*Horticulture*, July 1, 1926.



Specimen of Tree Peony, Banksi, photographed in June, 1926

## Farr's Special Peony Selections

The collections here offered include only standard, rated varieties and the best low-priced Peonies. They are prepared for those who are buying Peonies for the first time, or for those who do not yet possess any of the varieties included. Peony fans will note that here is an exceptional opportunity to obtain a fine collection of Peonies. Why not send a collection to a friend as a gift? Peonies are known to thrive and bloom freely for a hundred years. Could there be a more lasting gift?

### AMATEUR (JUNIOR) COLLECTION

8.5 Adolphe Rousseau. Red.....	\$1 50
8.7 Albatre. White.....	1 00
7.8 Augustin d'Hour. Red.....	1 00
9.3 Festiva Maxima. White.....	1 00
8.6 Marguerite Gerard. Pink.....	1 00
9.2 Mons. Jules Elie. Pink.....	1 00

\$6 50

**Two reds, two whites, two pinks** (amounting to \$6.50) for **\$5 complete**. Add 50 cts. if parcel post handling is desired; otherwise shipment will be made by express collect.

### AMATEUR (SENIOR) COLLECTION

7.6 Adelaide Hollis. White.....	\$3 00
7.4 Admiral Togo. Red.....	2 00
8.7 Claire Dubois. Pink.....	1 50
8.1 Duchesse de Nemours. White.....	1 00
8.2 Francois Rousseau. Red.....	2 00
8.7 Reine Hortense. Pink.....	1 50

\$11 00

**Two of each color** (amounting to \$11) for **\$9 complete**. Add 50 cts. for parcel post.

**Junior and Senior collections together for \$12.95**. Add \$1 for parcel post handling.

I take pleasure in expressing my entire satisfaction with all transactions with your firm during the past fifteen years. I do not now recall any plants received from you that have failed to grow. During year 1925 five flower shows were held in Logan and I had the pleasure of receiving prizes at each show. I can honestly say from my experience that you are justified in the use of the title "Better Plants by Farr."—FREDERICK SCHOLES, 456 East First North, Logan, Utah.



West view of Weiser Park Farm showing Irises, Peonies, and Evergreens. This la



Farr's Peonies in the garden of Mr. Andy Henriksen, 314 West St., Sioux City, Iowa

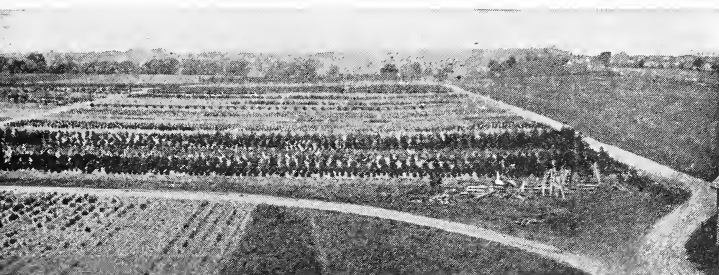
## Closing Out Sale of Discarded Peony Varieties

(Of interest to growers, cut-flower dealers,  
estate and home owners)

This spring more than 170 varieties of Peonies were dropped from the Farr collection. We are determined to reduce the list to 150 varieties. Since 1923, another 350 varieties have been discarded and sold out in moving sales. Whether or not we were wise to discard so heavily remains to be seen, but that is our problem and your opportunity.

*We emphasize the importance of ordering promptly and of specifying alternates when the order is placed.* This spring more than 80,000 moving-sale irises were sold out in two weeks and many customers were disappointed. We could not help this, and merely tip you off now as to the wisdom of ordering Peonies at once.

The 1926 discards are to be sold out this fall. This will be the last worth-while opportunity for obtaining Peonies in quantity at low prices.



...nce belonged to Conrad Weiser, and his original deed from William Penn is on exhibit

## IMPORTANT

To close out the named varieties effectively, it is necessary to specify that purchasers must order the entire approximate quantities as indicated. Example: the approximate supply of Beauty's Mask is 85 roots. These will be sold to one person only, and to the one whose order is first received. Orders for less than 85 roots of Beauty's Mask must be returned. The rate on the accepted order will be 30 cts. per root. The final count may not be exactly 85 roots. If less, credit will be allowed, "pro rata," for shortage; if more, the extra roots will be included without charge.

Approximate Quantities in Stock	Variety	A.P.S. Rating	Color	Latest Catalogue Price	Lump Rate
85	Beauty's Mask.....	7.9	White.....	\$2 00	\$0 30
100	Candidissima.....	7.1	White.....	75	30
175	Charlotte Cushman.....	7.6	Light red....	1 50	30
150	Claude Gellee.....	7.5	White.....	3 00	30
200	Dorothy E. Kibby.....		White.....	2 00	30
100	Dr. H. Barnsby.....	7.9	Red.....	3 00	35
600	Enchantment.....	7.7	Pink.....	1 50	18
50	Gismonda.....	8.2	Pink.....	3 50	50
175	Miles Standish.....	7.6	Red.....	1 00	30
300	Mme. de Verneville.....	7.9	White.....	1 00	20
550	Philomele.....	7.7	Mixed col....	1 00	18
100	Raenthal.....		White.....	5 00	40
200	R. P. Whitfield.....	7.8	Pink.....	3 00	40
100	Schwindt.....		Pink.....	3 00	40
100	Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane..		Red.....	2 00	40
100	Sir Wm. Harcourt.....	7.4	Red.....	2 00	40
200	Venus (Princess Maude)....	8.3	Pink.....	2 00	30

**Note:** Orders from above list for less than the approximate quantities indicated, cannot be accepted. Prices are f.o.b. our station and all shipments to be made by express or freight, charges collect.

I have been buying plants from Farr's since 1912. Our business relations have given me much satisfaction and the plants received have been a source of joy and admiration to my garden friends as well as myself. What Mr. Farr did for horticulture in the United States should make garden lovers an everlasting debtor to the Wyomissing Nurseries. I wish you ever-increasing success.—WILL MCCLELLAND, 419 N. Jefferson Ave., Saginaw, Mich.



Farr's Peonies are as much at home in China as in America. This shows the garden of Mr. Charles Rayner, Shanghai, China, as it appeared on July 3, 1924





Peonies are a prominent feature in this Philadelphia garden

## Peonies "Potpourri"

("Odd and End" Peonies as low as 20 cts.)

You may have noticed on page 13 that 170 varieties of Peonies were discarded from the Farr list during spring, 1926, and that these are to be sold out this fall regardless of price.

You noticed that the list of named sorts included only 17 varieties, and perhaps wondered why the other 153 varieties were not included. They were not included because there were less than 75 roots of any of them, and to offer them by name would result in endless confusion and disappointment. The first lot of orders would "sell out" half the list. This was our experience on even larger quantities offered in the Moving Sale Peony List of 1924.

By removing the names from the stakes and marking them as to color, we produced quite a few thousand plants of each color and can offer them satisfactorily as was done in the case of "Odd and End" lilacs this spring.

If your order is placed within a week after you receive this catalogue, there is a good chance of receiving shipment in full. Here is the offer:

### WHITE PEONIES, with Names Removed.

Here are a few of the varieties on which we removed names from the stakes and substituted the name "White." You are likely to receive any of them. **We cannot specify what you will receive** except that they will be white Peonies.

Eucharis, Evening Glow, Hovey's White, Jeanne d'Arc, Lady Curzon, La Tendresse, Miss Salway, Mme. Crousse, Mme. Lemoine, Princess Maude, White Queen, and other white, flesh, cream, sulphur, and yellowish varieties.

These Peonies were once thought to be the best, and still are good, far better than the "market stand" Peony. They rate between 7.0 and 8.0, and will make money for the cut-flower grower and furnish low-priced beauty and mass display for the home-owner.

**Prices:** 1 root \$1; 5 or more roots at 40 cts. each; 10 or more roots at 35 cts. each; 25 or more roots at 30 cts. each; 50 or more roots at 25 cts. each; 100 or more roots at 20 cts. each. *All shipments by express or freight collect.*

## PINK PEONIES

Including Attraction, Beatrice Kelway, Delicatissima, Floral Treasure, Golden Harvest, Marguerite Dessert, Mme. Geissler, Mons. Jules Elie, Virginie, and many others. (Names have been removed from stakes; **cannot be furnished by name.**)

**Prices:** 1 root \$1; 5 or more roots at 40 cts. each; 10 or more roots at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 30 cts. each; 50 or more at 25 cts. each; 100 or more at 20 cts. each. *All shipments by express or freight, charges collect.*

## RED PEONIES

Including Dr. Caillot, Gloire de Touraine, L'Eclatante, Midnight, Prince of Darkness, Rubra Superba, Souvenir du Dr. Bretonneau, and others, along with tricolors and singles. (Names have been removed from stakes; **cannot be furnished by name.**)

**Prices:** 1 root \$1; 5 or more roots at 45 cts. each; 10 or more at 40 cts. each; 25 or more at 35 cts. each; 50 or more at 30 cts. each; 100 or more at 25 cts. each. *All shipments by express or freight collect.*

## SUPERFINE MIXED PEONIES

Including odds and ends from the Farr collection of more than 800 varieties. This mixture, caused by moving, discarding, and transplanting, has accumulated through many years and includes all types and colors of Peonies. An excellent opportunity for cut-flower investment.

**Prices:** \$1 per root; 5 or more roots at 35 cts. each; 10 or more at 30 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each; 50 or more at 20 cts. each; 100 or more at 18 cts. each. *All shipments by express or freight, charges collect.*

## PEONIES FOR INVESTMENT

(A Conservative Example)

One acre will contain 5,000 Peonies planted 3 feet apart.

Five thousand Peonies (2 to 5-eye) in comprehensive assortment cost from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

The second spring, 3 blooms per plant at 5 cts., income \$750.

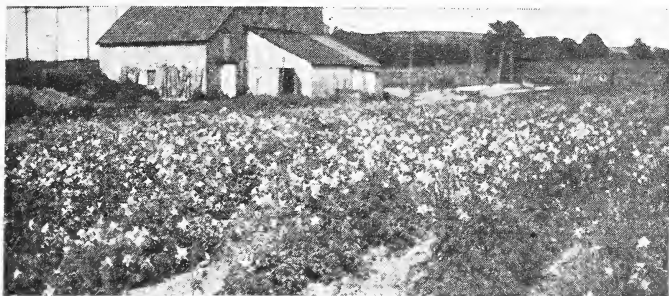
The third spring, 5 blooms per plant at 5 cts., income \$1,250.

The third spring, minimum increase to 10,000 roots, value \$3,000.

Expenses will vary according to your location, facilities, and ability. We have yet to hear of a failure in Peony cut-flower ventures, no matter how poorly conducted.



A herd of cattle is an important part of the nursery outfit. We find that natural fertilizer is superior to chemical fertilizers in producing Better Plants—by Farr



Weiser Park Hybrid Aquilegias

## AQUILEGIA, Columbine (Weiser Park Hybrids)

Five years ago we obtained our supply of Mrs. Scott Elliott's Hybrid Aquilegias. Since then, during each blooming season, we have labeled the finest blooms of the Mrs. Scott Elliott strain and the Wyomissing Hybrid Strain and from these have collected seed for next year's crop. You can well believe that after five years of seed selecting the strain has been greatly improved. The strain includes a wide range of mixed colors, in pastel shades. The yellows have been removed and can be furnished separately.

During peony and iris time at Weiser Park, this spring, all visitors stopped and marveled at the sight of such giant Aquilegias. The improvement of the strain is more than sufficient to justify naming it after our new nursery location. The accompanying photograph, taken during early June, 1926, conveys a fair idea as to the size of the two-year, field-grown clumps which are offered this year.

**Prices:** (Not less than 5 sold.) 5 or more at 40 cts. each; 25 or more at 30 cts. each. *For parcel post handling, add 10 cts. per root. Other shipment will be made by express collect.*

## DELPHINIUMS (Weiser Park Hybrids)

What has been said about Weiser Park aquilegias also applies to Weiser Park Delphiniums. The old Wyomissing Hybrid Gold Medal strain is far outclassed by this new crop of selected, choice and fine Delphiniums.

The illustration, taken on June 20, 1926, conveys a fair idea as to quality of the plants here offered.



Note the strong growth of Weiser Park Hybrid Delphiniums. Specimen and field photographed in June, 1926



Specimen Delphiniums grown by one of our customers

### Weiser Park Delphiniums, continued

The first two-year, field-grown crop of Weiser Park Delphiniums is ready for fall shipment. An early order will be in line for early shipment.

**Prices:** (Not less than five sold.) 5 or more at 40 cts. each; 25 or more at 30 cts. each. *For parcel post handling, add 10 cts. per root. Otherwise shipment will be made by express collect.*

## ORIENTAL POPPIES

Mahoney and Mrs. Perry, as listed in the 1926 catalogue, are sold out. In their place is a nice crop of Beauty of Livermere and Edna Perry. Remember that Poppies should be transplanted during August and September only. Therefore, place your order immediately so as to be in line for early shipment.

### REVISED LIST FOR 1926

**Apricot Queen.** Large, apricot-colored flowers. An unusual shade. 45 cts. each; 5 or more at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each.

**Beauty of Livermere.** Deep ox-blood red. 45 cts. each; 5 or more at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each.

**Cerise Beauty.** Large flowers of a beautiful shade of cerise-pink, with blood-crimson center and glittering black blotches. 45 cts. each; 5 or more at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each.

**Edna Perry.** Large; soft salmon-pink. 45 cts. each; 5 or more at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each.

**Royal Scarlet.** Very brilliant scarlet with black blotches. 45 cts. each; 5 or more at 35 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each.

**Mixed Poppies.** Grown from seed, and including a wide range of type and color. Not less than five plants sold. 5 or more at 30 cts. each; 25 or more at 20 cts. each.



A collection of French Hybrid Lilacs will give more real garden pleasure than almost any shrub that you can grow

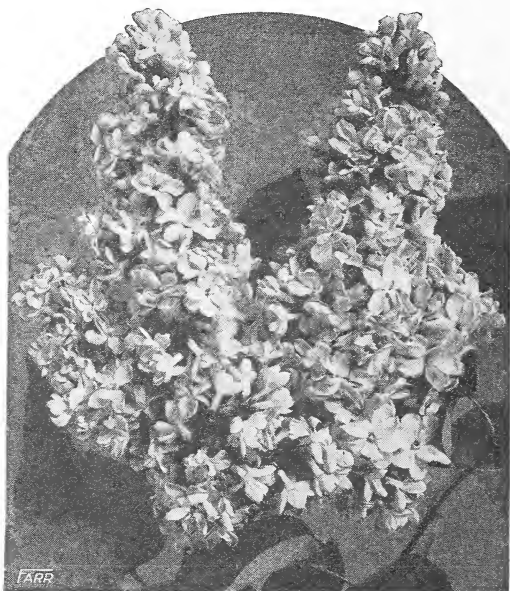
## Better Lilacs—by Farr

Lilac-time is spring-time at its best; when the air is filled with far-flung fragrance, what more delicate token can one bring to a friend or sweetheart than "just a bunch of Lilacs?"

What more cheerful sight in May than a venerable old Lilac tree, weighted with bloom, by the farm-yard gate? For the big old specimens do become veritable trees and it seems the older they grow the more profuse the bloom, and herein is one of its chief merits, for once established a Lilac is a joy for a lifetime.

I do not know if the Lilacs I saw at Mt. Vernon are the ones originally planted by Washington, but I can well believe so, for where my grandmother used to live are wonderful old Lilacs that were planted long before the gold rush to the New Eldorado in 1849. Now, after threescore and ten years, they bloom in old-time splendor.

*Syringa* is the botanical name for the Lilac. Out West we used to call the mock oranges "syringas." The common purple or white Lilac of an old garden is *Syringa vulgaris*, a native of southeastern Europe, Hungary, and the Balkan countries. The Syringas comprise a dozen or more distinct species, most of which, except *Syringa vulgaris*, are natives of northern and central Asia.



Typical truss of French Hybrid Lilacs

## French Hybrid Lilacs

Most of the many beautiful hybrid forms now found in large collections were obtained by Lemoine, from crosses of the common Lilac with a rather early flowered Asiatic species, *Syringa oblata*. One who has not seen them would hardly believe the wonderful results of these crosses. The trusses have been greatly enlarged; many of them have full, double flowers of great size. The range of colors has been greatly extended, varying from white and creamy white to soft shades of pink and rose, soft blues, violets and heliotropes, deep purple-crimson, and dark purple-garnet. Can you imagine a richer group of colors, or a combination more entrancing in its harmony.

### SEASON OF BLOOM

Lilacs generally begin to bloom about the middle of May, with about a week's variation in the blooming period of the different varieties. To these Lemoine has added a new race of hybrids, crosses of the common Lilac with the Asiatic species *Giraldii*, a very early blooming variety which has transferred its early blooming qualities to its hybrids which come into bloom a week earlier than the other varieties. They are all single and in shades of violet, and are very rapid, strong growers and extremely profuse bloomers.

The old-fashioned or common Lilac attains considerable age before blooming, resembling wistaria in this respect. Continuous trimming, thinning out, cultivation, and removal of suckers is conducive to bloom which can be expected at the age of six to seven years.

The French Hybrid Lilacs bloom not only at a much earlier age and season, but more freely. It is nothing unusual for our one-year-old cuttings to throw bloom-buds, and quite common to find beautiful trusses on two-year-old plants.

Unfortunately, plants of this desirable strain have never been plentiful in this country, and since the quarantine on foreign importations, the demand exceeds the supply. Therefore, in the handling of French Hybrid Lilacs, size is no basis for price. The price is



Specimen of French Hybrid Lilac, showing abundance of bloom on a young plant

set according to the quality of bloom. I make no apologies for the fact that few of our salable French Hybrid Lilacs exceed 2 feet in height. I would import thousands of the same size from France if permitted and would be glad to have them. You, too, can be glad to own a French Hybrid Lilac for the beauty and distinction it will give to your grounds during Lilac-time.

### LILAC PLANTING

Lilacs are best planted in fall, after the leaves begin to drop. Planting can be continued until the ground freezes permanently and bloom can be expected the next spring. Spring planting of Lilacs is also satisfactory, but the planting season is shorter, since it extends only from the time the ground opens until the buds appear. Spring-planted Lilacs will seldom bloom before the next year.

The planting process consists of little more than the excavation of a hole 2 to 3 feet in diameter, to the depth indicated by the ground markings of the nursery planting. Pack and spread the first application of ground firmly about the roots with the hands and fill in the hole with a shovel. Then again tamp the ground firmly, so winter winds will not loosen the stem and allow a killing girdling of ice to form around the stem below the surface. Mound to a 3-inch height for drainage, and allow for settling of soil. Do not mix fertilizer with the soil. Fertilize by top dressing with bone-meal and a fall mulch of straw- or leaf-manure after the ground freezes. In spring work the mulch into the top soil.

Maintain a circle 3 feet in diameter, loosened and free of weeds, around the plant at all times.

The Lilacs have comparatively few enemies but be on the lookout for scales, caterpillars, and borers. The best thing to do when suspicious of trouble is to send us an affected twig with a letter. We will furnish the remedy by return mail.

# French Hybrid Lilacs

## New Varieties—Choice Varieties—Reduced Prices

This list of French Hybrid Lilacs (named varieties) supersedes all previous lists, and is the most complete and satisfactory offer we have made since foreign importations were ended in 1918.

The Farr Lilac Collection, of more than 180 varieties, has been thoroughly studied and propagation has been concentrated to the "best fifty." By lessening the number of varieties we are able to produce better quality, to furnish better service, and to reduce prices as will be noted.

This list is our first comprehensive offer resulting from concentrated selection and propagation. No French Hybrid Lilacs are poor Lilacs, and your selection from the "best fifty" should certainly result in something unusually desirable.

**Important. Prices are F. O. B. our station** and do not include transportation. Lilacs should be shipped by express. If parcel post packing and service are desired, add 20 cents for each plant.

Sizes range from 18 to 24 inches. Plants have already bloomed and are guaranteed true to name. The plants were propagated on privet stock and have established their own roots. Should any privet suckers appear, they may be readily distinguished and easily removed.

**Belle de Nancy.** Double. Brilliant satiny rose, white center. One of the best pinks. \$2.75.

**Berryer.** Semi-double. Extra-long trusses of clear mauve flowers. \$2.75.

**Charles Joly.** Double. A very beautiful, bright crimson with silvery reverse; large panicles. \$2.75.

**Colbert.** Double. Giant trusses of dark purple-crimson blooms. Midseason. \$2.50.

**Congo.** Single. Long spikes of bright, deep red-purple flowers. One of the best dark sorts. \$3.50.

**De Mirabel.** Single. Large trusses of very dark bluish violet flowers. \$2.75.

**Decaisne.** (Decorative.) Single. Clear azure-blue. \$2.50.

**Diderot.** Single. Large, round, rich claret-violet flowers in enormous panicles. Very free bloomer. \$2.75.

**Dr. Bretschneider.** Single. A hybrid novelty between *Syringa villosa* and *S. Henryi*, resembling the former. It bears large, pyramidal panicles, 10 inches long, of single, pale lilac-purple flowers. \$4.50.

**Dr. Nobbe.** Single. Bright lilac. \$2.

**Edith Cavell.** Double. Bold handsome clusters of pure white blooms; buds suffused cream-white. \$3.50.

**Ellen Willmott.** Double. White, with immense panicles and individual flowers an inch in diameter. Accepted as the best white. Midseason. \$3.75.

**Emile Gentil.** Double. Large, imbricated flowers of bright cobalt-blue—a very rare shade. \$2.75.

**Frau Bertha Dammann.** Single. One of the best pure white, single varieties, with large trusses of individual flowers of unusual size. \$3.

**Geant des Batailles.** Single. Large trusses of medium-sized blue flowers. Good supply permits lower price. \$2.50.

**Hugo Koster.** Single. Early-flowering, with large, full trusses of lilac blooms having a reddish tinge. A good forcing variety. \$2.50.

**Jean Bart.** Double. Medium-sized trusses of distinct vinous rose or violet flowers, with sharp-pointed petals. Good bloom; fragrant. \$2.50.

**Jean Macé.** Double. Broad, compact, very large panicles of irregular bluish mauve flowers. A most distinct variety. \$2.50.

**Josikæa.** A species from Asia, with purple flowers. Late, blooming after other varieties are ended. \$2.



(b) IF PAYMENT IS MADE WITHIN THIRTY DAYS, we agree to resupply, F. O. B. our nurseries, at one-half the original price paid, any plants which have failed to establish themselves, from cause other than abuse and neglect, and on which report is made within one year after date of shipment.



WYOMISSING, PENNA.

Express Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

**You may use the balance of this order sheet for questions or special instructions**

[illegible]

**For Express add 5 per cent of the order total**

## French Hybrid Lilacs, continued

- Jules Simon.** Double. Immense trusses of very large lilac-mauve flowers, passing to pale azure. \$2.50.
- Lamartine.** Single. Very elegant and early panicles of single mauve-pink flowers; very showy. \$2.75.
- Léon Gambetta.** Double. Immense trusses of very large lilac-rose flowers—nearly an inch in diameter. A magnificent variety; early flowering. \$3.75.
- Ludwig Spaeth.** Single. Very dark crimson-purple blooms. One of the darkest. \$2.75.
- Michel Buchner.** Double. Large; clear lilac. \$2.50.
- Mirabeau.** Single. Very large flowers of lilac-mauve to rosy lavender, in large panicles. The earliest of all. \$3.
- Mme. Casimer Perier.** Double. White; very large. Early and beautiful. \$2.75.
- Mme. Leon Simon.** Double. Large, rosy lilac flowers in fine trusses. \$2.50.
- Mont Blanc.** Single. A novelty having large, well-branched panicles of enormous pure white flowers, with round lobes. Considered by Mr. Lemoine as the most beautiful of all single white Lilacs. \$3.
- Persica Rubra** (Red Persian Lilac). Single. A fine old variety of dwarf, bushy habit, with very fragrant reddish purple flowers in loose panicles. One of the most desirable species. Blooms late. \$2.50.
- President Fallieres.** New. Double. A superb; late-flowering variety, with enormous trusses and incurved flowers of pale lilac-pink, with pink buds. One of the best five Lilacs. \$4.
- President Grevy.** Double. Very large, handsome, extremely double, soft blue flowers. One of the best in this color. There are no true blue Lilacs, just as there are no true red irises, but this is one of the best bluish Lilacs. Panicles on well-established plants are nearly a foot long. \$3.
- President Loubet.** Double. Bright crimson-purple; buds carmine. \$2.75.
- Reaumur.** Single. Dark carmine, with satin tone. Trusses almost as wide as they are high. A giant bloom. \$2.75.
- Vauban.** Double. Tender pinkish mauve. One of the earliest. \$2.75.
- Vestale.** Single. A Lemoine introduction. Enormous panicles of large, perfectly shaped, pure white flowers. \$2.75.
- Waldeck-Rousseau.** Double. Immense trusses, 10 inches in length, of large lilac-rose flowers, with white center. Early. \$2.75.

## BARGAINS IN MIXED FRENCH LILACS

Due to moving operations, a considerable quantity of choice French Lilacs have become mixed, and the task of straightening out the mixture is about hopeless.

The plants included in this mixture will, therefore, be sold for little more than the cost of digging and packing. It is not fair to ask you to pay production costs. Those that are not sold this fall will be burned on the brush-pile.

No warranty as to name, type, or color can be given, except that every plant is a choice French Hybrid Lilac whose identity has been lost.

The quantity is not large. "Odd and End" Lilacs, by color, quickly sold out last spring, and many were disappointed. The best procedure is to order promptly. Sizes will range from 2 to 4 feet.

**Prices:** (Not less than 3 plants sold.) 3 or more at \$1.50 each; 10 or more at \$1.25 each; 25 or more at \$1 each. *If parcel post handling is desired, add 20 cts. per plant, but more than three plants cannot be shipped by parcel post. Express shipment is recommended. Purchaser pays express charges.*

NO WARRANTY AS TO NAMES OR COLORS

*The McFarland Publicity Service, Harrisburg, Pa.*



Acres of Irises photographed June, 1926. No Irises grown at Weiser Park are rated less than 7 on the American Iris Society scale. Complete list is given in our general catalogue

## Ten Perennial Bargains

These plants must be sold this fall or plowed under. It's your chance to get some good varieties at "a song." Not less than 25 of one kind sold.

**Achillea, The Pearl.** Double; white. All summer.

**Anthemis tinctoria.** Golden yellow. All summer.

**Campanula Grosseki.** Blue. June, July.

**Centaurea,** assorted varieties. All summer.

**Chrysanthemum, Alaska.** White. July, August.

**Helianthus,** assorted varieties. Midsummer.

**Hosta variegata.** Lavender. July, August.

**Lythrum,** assorted varieties. July to September.

**Monarda didyma.** Red. All summer.

**Rudbeckia,** assorted varieties. August to October.

25 or more plants of one kind at 12 cts. each; 50 or more at 10 cts. each; 100 or more at 8 cts. each. All shipments by express collect

### GUARANTEE

All shipments are freshly and specially dug, are guaranteed to arrive in a satisfactory condition and to be true to name. Substitutions are made only by permission or request. Every Farr plant is sold, subject to the approval of the customer and is returnable at our expense, if not satisfactory.

Farr plants aren't **always** the "best" plants.  
Farr service isn't **always** the "best" service.  
Farr prices aren't **always** the "lowest" prices.

**BUT each Farr order is regarded as a trial order** and is considered an opportunity for encouraging another order from the customer or from a neighbor.

**AND three-fourths of Farr** mail-order sales, each year, come from customers of the year before.

**AND Farr sales have increased steadily** and annually since 1908, when the business began.

**AND more than 200 people** who dealt with Farr's in 1908 are still doing so.

**AND the slogan BETTER PLANTS—BY FARR** means that we are never satisfied but are always trying to improve Farr plants and service.

**FARR NURSERY CO.**

1250 Garfield Avenue • Wyomissing, Pa.